

NEW YORK HERALD

PUBLISHED BY THE NEW YORK HERALD CORPORATION, 230 N. BROADWAY, TELEPHONE, WORTH 10,000.

Directors and officers: Frank A. Munsey, President; Edwin W. Wacker, Vice President; Wm. H. Newman, Treasurer; R. H. Thayer, Secretary.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year, \$12.00; Six Months, \$7.00; Three Months, \$4.00; Single Copies, 10 Cents.

By Mail, Postpaid: One Year, \$12.00; Six Months, \$7.00; Three Months, \$4.00; Single Copies, 10 Cents.

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granted this well high indispensable privilege to their merchants. Where the custom called for six months credit there was no difficulty whatever in negotiating the credit and disposing of the drafts drawn against it. America was able to ignore these practices during the war, while the war made this the compulsory buying place of nearly all the rest of the world. But this is changed now. America is not a compulsory buying place. There is no such thing. Many of the commodities for which the world was begging two years ago are a drug on the market.

The New York Herald believes that in clearing away the obstacles in the path of foreign trade, so far as the financial and banking end of the bargain is concerned, the Federal Reserve Board is doing its part and doing it well.

The New Price Fixing Law.

Governor MILLER has done well to approve the so-called photo-engraving bill prohibiting the fixing of prices on any article or product used in the conduct of trade, commerce or manufacture, and it is fitting to speak again of the far-reaching importance of this measure.

As the Donnelly law against monopoly price fixing previously stood it applied only to "any article or commodity of common use." It was under a court decision that employers and employees in the particular photo-engraving trade were permitted to make and enforce a selling price agreement because their product was held to be not of "common use." The price fixers, employers and employees together, thus could and did tell a member of the trade that he could not sell his product to the public below their price lists, no matter how cheaply he could manufacture it or how anxious he was to make only a reasonable profit. They could and did prevent any members of the union from working for him unless he maintained the fixed prices. They could and did shut up his plant and drive him out of business if he persisted in selling below the decreed prices.

And all this because the court held the photo-engraving product, as an article not of "common use," was immune from the anti-monopoly law, although photo-engraving might be used not merely in publications, illustrations and the like, but in so many different ways, like advertising labels on commodity containers and wrappers, as to affect the prices of all kinds of necessities of life making up the general cost of living.

It was, indeed, an extraordinary condition of affairs where under the statutes of New York price fixing monopolies were legal crimes in one field but legal virtues in another. It was an astounding performance when SAM GOMPERS and other union leaders declared to the Legislature that employers should be permitted to fix prices for monopoly purposes as long as they did so by force of union employees and when those leaders even dared to warn the Legislature not to interfere with this special license for employers and employees, acting together by approval of the Federation of Labor, to impose prices which consumers must pay.

And it was the height of impudence when these threatening leaders magnanimously offered that if the Legislature and the Governor would not make the anti-monopoly law apply to all price fixers alike they would consent to reach some private arrangement with certain complaining employers that would be satisfactory to them. Never one thought about the equality of all under the law. Never one thought about even handed justice to anybody and everybody. Never one thought about the rights of the public.

But the Legislature and the Governor did weigh all these considerations, did ignore the insolence and resist the blustering and, in extending the Donnelly anti-monopoly law so as to end the exclusive price fixing privileges of those favored employers and employees, did set up a shining and widely influential example in enlightened and courageous legislation for the benefit of the whole public and nobody but the public.

Cost of Britain's Coal Strike.

Great Britain has been in the grip of the coal strike now for six weeks. Fuel is being rationed, train service has been curtailed, scores of industrial plants have closed, throwing hundreds of thousands of employees out of work.

Although wages are supposed to be the issue, the strike is not an industrial dispute at all. Extreme radicals of the left wing are endeavoring to make the strike a Waterloo not only for the present Government of Great Britain but for the existing constitutional system of government. They would pave the way for complete state socialism by nationalizing the coal mines and forcing on the great majority of British labor and of the British people a coal subsidy amounting approximately to an annual tax of \$10 a head for every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom.

But the political aspect of the dispute does not by any means divest it of a purely industrial aspect of vital importance not only to England but to the existing British Empire as a whole. British industry owes its existence to cheap fuel. The British merchant fleet has been nourished on cheap bunkers and plentiful cargoes of coal for outward voyages to fetch back the consumer imports which England refined into a higher priced, less bulky class of goods requiring less

ship tonnage for export. On this foundation of cheap fuel and industrial and maritime efficiency, reinforced by a vast banking and insurance mechanism, rests the superstructure of the British Empire.

British mine union leaders knew as well as did British capitalists that the British Government wherein lay the source of British economic strength. These radical leaders sought to terrorize the Government by threatening to destroy the foundation of the British Empire. They chose what they thought was an opportune moment for the attack, because British coal production and British coal exports had been steadily falling off as the result of labor's policy of shorter hours and higher pay.

In 1913 the coal exports were 70,425,000 tons, in 1919 they were 33,643,000 tons, and in 1920 only 23,261,000 tons. But all this time the price kept advancing. The relation of values to export tonnage underwent the following change:

Exports.	Tons.	Value.
1913.....	70,425,000	\$50,727,000
1919.....	33,643,000	\$8,213,000
1920.....	23,261,000	\$9,627,000

While ignoring entirely the lower tonnage of British coal exports, the British labor leaders turned their attention to the higher prices. They knew in their hearts that the higher the price of British coal for export, the weaker became the hold on British markets abroad. They knew in their hearts that the less coal sent overseas, the more ships sailed in ballast and the weaker became the British merchant fleet. They could have verified this by simply referring to the figures for British coal exports to the principal markets which without a single exception are smaller than before the war and in some cases have dwindled to less than one-tenth the 1914 figure.

And as to the result of the higher prices the facts were that at the end of Government control in March the cost of producing coal due to high wages was so much greater than the receipts from coal sales, despite high prices, that the Government was paying out of its own pocket about \$25,000,000 a month as a subsidy to keep the mines running.

Restore Grant's Birthplace.

The cabin in which General ULYSSES S. GRANT was born at Point Pleasant, Ohio, on April 27, 1822, now stands on the Ohio State Fair Grounds in Columbus, it having been given to the State in 1888 for safe keeping by the late HENRY T. CHITTENDEN, who bought it from an itinerant showman, by whom it had been exhibited in various parts of the country. A movement has been started by HENRY L. NICHOLS, formerly Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, to restore the cabin to its original site as a part of the celebration of the centenary of General GRANT's birth next year.

Naturally enough, the Ohio Secretary of Agriculture does not want to part with such an interesting relic, but Judge NICHOLS's project will commend itself to those who without official bias consider the proposal in the light of historic appropriateness.

The cabin once more set up at Point Pleasant would be much more interesting than it can possibly be made in its present surroundings. The home of General GRANT's father and mother might easily be restored to its appearance at the time their first son, named by them HIRSH ULYSSES, but by accident registered at West Point as ULYSSES S., was born. It could be preserved for all time as a memorial to this great American.

The Ohio authorities should help Judge NICHOLS put the birthplace of General Grant where it stood when JESSE R. GRANT and his wife HANNAH SIMPSON lived in it.

Aland Islands to Finland.

The troublesome little Aland Islands have been so long the subject of a bitter controversy among the Scandinavian countries with many of the other European states either interested operators or active partisans that it would seem as if any settlement which would bring a sense of security to the islanders and peace among the disputants would be welcomed. But it is not evident that this security and peace will follow as a result of the recommendations decided upon by the Aland Islands Commission at Geneva; there is some doubt that Finland will agree to the limitations fixed on the award of the islands to her by the commission, while it is sorely likely that Sweden will submit to having her whole eastern coast left without protection against an enemy nation's attack.

The Aland Islands, lying at the entrance to the Gulf of Bothnia on the north and the Gulf of Finland on the east, occupy the strongest strategic position in the Baltic Sea. The islands, about 300 in number, form a chain of mostly rocky points not more than from ten to twenty miles apart from the coast of Sweden north of Stockholm to the coast of Finland near Abo. Two or three of the larger islands, mostly those off the Swedish coast, have richly productive farming soil; about eighty of them are inhabited, and a fourth of the entire number might possibly be available as sites for forts, naval stations or aviation bases.

It was on account of their strategic value that Russia gobbled them up, together with Finland, in 1809. Sweden then began her fight either to regain the islands or to prevent them from remaining a menace to her coast.

Whispering, "See! In life's remotest spot
Flowers God's remembrance, His
forget-me-not!"

Fifty years later Russia agreed not to fortify the islands or to permit them to be used for military or for naval purposes. This agreement Russia kept until the beginning of the world war, when she fortified them against the Germans, but she always refused to return them to Sweden.

Finland defended her claim to the Alands upon this Russian occupation and it prevailed before the commission. The islands are to be annexed to Finland upon that country guaranteeing certain rights of franchise, of government and protection of the Swedish population. These provisions are rather severe ones for the Finns to accept. The population of the islands is almost entirely Swedish—the last official estimate was that of 21,356 Alandians, 20,488 spoke Swedish and 895, or only a little more than 4 per cent, spoke Finnish. As the islanders preserved this proportion for more than 100 years under the autocratic rule of Russia, they are likely to continue to preserve it under Finnish Government, which must pledge itself not to interfere with the language, schools or customs of the people of the islands. Finland in accepting this provision agrees to the incorporation within her State of a body of Swedes irreconcilably opposed to becoming Finnish.

Sweden supported her demand for the islands upon not only historical and racial rights but also upon the necessity of the Alands to her economic development and the protection of her country. The trade of the islands in the past was almost entirely with Sweden. In the plans for the building of a railway across southern Sweden the islands were to form a link which would connect her transportation system with Abo and the Baltic States. The occupation of the Alands by an unfriendly Power would be a distinct menace to Sweden. The Aland Haf, between her coast and the islands, is a deep channel, through which war vessels could pass to her Bothnian Gulf coast. The Swedish capital, Stockholm, and the important town of Upsala are both within range of modern big guns which might be placed on the larger of the Alands. There is nothing to indicate that Sweden has received any safeguards against these perils. Until this is done the commission's recommendations will find bitter opposition in that nation and the whole Aland question will remain as much a trouble maker as ever it was in the past.

Should this turn out to be the case, another failure of after-war adjustment must be charged against the diplomacy of the world.

Slacker List Errors.

TO THE NEW YORK HERALD: Why these objections to the slacker list publication? The writer never notified his draft board that he had enlisted, and in all probability his name will appear on the list of draft evaders from Morris county, New Jersey, when that list is published. This, however, he regards with perfect equanimity, as all his friends know that he served overseas, and to all others he can show his American Legion button and his discharge.

This is the case with all true service men. The charge of slackerism, if it can be honestly refuted, simply redounds to the credit of the accused and but emphasizes his war service.

As the honest cannot, therefore, be hurt, let us by all means know the draft dodgers and those who played baseball in the shipyards at \$10 a day and who did not even take the trouble to have their records straightened out.

PRIVATE WHO BECAME A CAPTAIN.
NEW YORK, May 14.

Are Women Uncivilized?

Women, according to Professor HAMILTON P. CARY of the University of Kansas, are "far less civilized than they were in the so-called barbaric ages." Then men painted themselves and women didn't; as time went on men "came to realize the futility of such deception," and painting the body was abandoned by them, but women have brought the art to a popularity it never had with men.

If Professor CARY is correctly quoted, it follows that in his opinion men have advanced in civilization while women have been slipping back. This is alarming if true. Men have just given equal political rights to women here, in England and in many other countries. If it turns out that women are retrograding, the males have blindly invited the destruction of everything humanity has won through the ages.

We may be permitted to hope Professor CARY is unduly agitated. He is a chemist in a vocational school and consequently has excellent opportunities for observation. Yet his conclusions should be checked up before they are finally accepted. Fortunately, we may be able to compare them with the outcome of the studies of our young women now being made by another chemist.

The colleague of Professor CARY whom we have in mind may be known to him by reputation. We refer to MME. CURIE.

One hundred and twenty-four Sinn Fein candidates out of 128 won in the elections for the South of Ireland Parliament. Their opponents know exactly how the Democrats in this country felt on November 2.

Dr. COHEN, who bosses the Quarantine Station, has issued an order under which his boarding officers begin their activities by the sun's rising and not by the clock. The result yesterday was that eleven vessels got pratique in record breaking time. This improvement of service will be felt all along the water front. Dr. Cohen has earned thanks for an interference with time which will please everybody—except, perhaps, the boarding officers doomed to early rising.

The Forget-Me-Not.

By banks of green, down golden ways
I strayed,
Beside a stream from out the mountain side
And as I watched its silver waters glide
On to the sapphire ocean I delayed
In wonderment, for where the current played
About the boulders in a gentle tide
A fair frail flowerlet raised its face
And vied
With heavens coloring of azure shade.

It was as though, into the stream of life
I looked and saw its waters flowing free;
Some currents placid and some fraught
With strife;
The blossom in the brook's heart spoke to me,
Whispering, "See! In life's remotest spot
Flowers God's remembrance, His
forget-me-not!"

Coal Prices.

A Domestic Record of the Rise From \$5.50 to \$12 a Ton.

TO THE NEW YORK HERALD: I submit the following record of prices paid for furnace coal in fifteen ton lots, delivered and stored in the cellar at a town within twenty-five miles of Hoboken on the Lackawanna Railroad:

Year.	Price a ton.
1907.....	\$5.50
1908.....	5.50
1909.....	5.50
1910.....	5.50
1911.....	5.50
1912.....	5.50
1913.....	5.50
1914.....	5.50
1915.....	5.50
1916.....	5.50
1917.....	5.50
1918.....	5.50
1919.....	5.50
1920.....	11.50
1921.....	12.00 (asked)

NEW YORK, May 14. C. K.

Higher Rates in Maine.

TO THE NEW YORK HERALD: The timely challenge to coal profiteers throughout our country contained in your editorial article "Coal Prices Must Come Down" calls for the gratitude of the whole nation and leads me to write of the coal prices demanded here in this Maine coal village.

Summer cottagers residents are encountering higher prices for coal than last season, though we know that all other prices are steadily falling. This village community has been subjected all this winter I learn to what is now the price asked for nut coal, \$17.50 a ton. In addition there is an extra charge for delivery. Last summer we paid \$12 a ton for nut coal and \$6 extra—\$18 a ton in all—for trucking from York beach, six miles distant. SUMMER RESIDENT. OUNQUITT, MAINE, May 10.

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PRIVATE WHO BECAME A CAPTAIN.
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Hot Corn.

Poetry Inspired in a Vender by a Lost Art of the Cook.

TO THE NEW YORK HERALD: An old colored man used to stand at the corner of Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue. The dimly buildings bulk against the gloom. And restlessly and faint and far away. Life threads again the shuttles of its weaving once more its web of mist and muck.

In grid of wheels and tread of passing feet. The sparrow's rouse, day's weariness and work. Begins again upon the clanging street. Yet have I seen the day come swift and sweet. Yet have I seen the city tinged with gold.

When glided wall and buttress rose to meet. The rising sun with rapture and desire. Old days, far days that shall not come again.

Yet still days come, and still the sun arises. And time and tide run on unchanged as when. I watched dawn waken in thy dream-drugged eyes.

Conditions in Alaska.

Objections to a Bill in Congress Affecting Its Resources.

TO THE NEW YORK HERALD: There was introduced May 3 in the House of Representatives a bill, H. R. 6694, to provide for the administration of national property and interests in the Territory of Alaska and for other purposes. It is evident that there is every intention of rushing this bill through the committee, for although it was introduced May 3 hearings on it began May 9.

The bill is complex and not easy to understand, but it appears to be a serious menace to all the natural resources of Alaska. It provides for the transfer to a board of five members—the Governor of the Territory of Alaska, the president of the Board of Road Commissioners for Alaska and three others to be appointed by the President—power over pretty much everything in Alaska. The coal and the national parks, which were in the original bill, were taken out.

The bill transfers to this board all jurisdiction of all kinds over the national forests, the fisheries, the fur seal islands, the game of all kinds, all fur-bearing animals and all bird reservations in Alaska. The board is also to control the administration of the Lacey act and the Federal migratory bird treaty act so far as Alaska is concerned. The powers given the board are of most unlimited and uncontrolled. Such a body with such powers might work enormous harm to the natural resources of Alaska. The measure is obviously political in character.

The board will be subject to all sorts of local demands and pressure, and this will result in the swift destruction by local people of everything that can be turned into money. This threatens the extermination in most parts of the Territory of much of the game that has been and still is abundant there. The said of late years, about which much has been exterminated, either under bounty laws or by permitting the commercialization of their hides.

Alaskans are heartily in favor of this measure, as are people in the northwestern United States, who are eager to build up Alaska so that the trade of Seattle, Portland and San Francisco may be increased. Representatives of these communities are on the ground in Washington, and a great crowd of them was

Tells Aims of New Club for Women Daily Calendar

Mrs. Clarence C. Calhoun of Washington Says Organization Will Hold Aloof From Politics.

Mrs. Clarence C. Calhoun of Washington, one of the principal organizers of the Women's National Foundation, announced yesterday in New York that Herbert Hoover, John Hays Hammond, Milton E. Allen, Henry Cleveland Perkins and Charles J. Bell, Washington business men, have been invited to become members of the foundation advisory committee. The organization proposes to construct a \$3,000,000 clubhouse in the national capital to house women's organizations.

The advisory committee of men will give counsel in business matters relating to the raising of a budget and the construction of buildings, but the foundation affairs, according to Mrs. Calhoun, will be in the hands of a board of governors composed entirely of women members. Wednesday, on the Dean estate in Washington, which was purchased recently by the foundation, the founders and others who may be eligible for membership in the board of governors will hold a meeting to complete organization plans.

Mrs. Calhoun, who is a guest at the home of Mrs. Francis Burrill Hoffman, 58 East Seventy-ninth street, told the foundation aims briefly. The foundation will be active in spirit, but will hold aloof from partisan politics. It will advocate a national Americanization program, will attempt to diffuse a greater knowledge of government and procedure among the women of the country, and will support generally movements aimed to ameliorate the condition of the unfortunate in society.

Mrs. Calhoun was a guest yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Preston Satterwhite at Great Neck, L. I.

COVER DESIGNS ON VIEW.

Miss B. N. Jaffe Wins Museum of Natural History Prize.

On view at the American Museum of Natural History there is an exhibit of designs suitable for use on the cover of the Museum's magazine, *Natural History*. The designs are the work of Washington Irving High School students, to whom the designs were made by Miss B. N. Jaffe. The second prize was awarded to a design of a butterfly, which was made by Francis Gessner. The seven general prizes were awarded to Misses Bala, De Takacs, Friedman, Isaacs, McAlister, Tompkins and Williams.

Thirty poster designs by students in the second year advertising class of the New York School of Fine and Applied Art have been placed on exhibition in the South Indian Hall. They were inspired by research in the Indian rooms of the museum. Some of the participating students are former service men, working under the guidance of the Federal Vocational Bureau.

A collection of posters, made by children in New York's elementary schools, is exhibited on the third floor of the Museum. The posters were designed at the first hearing, held on Monday last.

Such activities are an old story. They have been going on for twenty-five years and always at the public expense; witness the \$60,000,000 railroad, which it is now said will reach Fairbanks just about in time to bring away the last man left there.

For many years now, and especially since the placer mines gave out, Alaska has been steadily going down hill, until its population is absolutely desolate. Some of the mining towns of a few years ago, whose population was once many thousands, have now only one or two hundred people. I have heard of one or two towns whose banks are liquidating and going out of business. They do not earn the money needed to pay their officials and their clerical forces.

This is partly the fault of the Alaskans, many of whom, with no vision for the future, have destroyed for present gain everything that was valuable. Their fisheries, which ought to have been permanent for many generations, are failing, and in some places have already failed. People with interests in Alaska declare that it has a great future, and this is true; but that future will come only after slow development and an intelligent handling of conditions.

The citizens of the United States have as great an interest in Alaska as the Alaskans themselves. Permanent residents of the Territory are few, but there is a floating population which has gone there for the purpose of making a stake and as soon as that stake has been made of getting out of the Territory and going somewhere else to live.

Is the United States public content to have the natural resources of Alaska, including its bird reservations, its game and fur-bearing animals, its forests, its seals over which for so many years there was so much investigation, so much diplomacy and so much money spent, entirely wiped out at the wish of a few people in Alaska who wish to seize every natural thing in the Territory, and the few people in certain Pacific coast seaports who desire to see their local trade increased?

J. HOLBURN SMITH.
NEW YORK, May 14.

Too Much for the Statisticians.

From the London Daily Mail.

A report has been received that the "Mad Mullah" (ruler of rebel Derwishes in Somaliland) is dead, but it has not been confirmed. Mr. Churchill informed the House of Commons yesterday.

Sir J. Ross—Is there any record in the Colonial Office of the number of times the Mullah has died?

Mr. Churchill—In these hard times we cannot undertake to keep unnecessary statistics.

The "Mad Mullah" shares with the late Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia the fame of all been reported to die on many occasions, but with any other ruler of recent times.

Falling Back on the Red Men.

From the Warrenburg Star-Journal.

Charity may cover a multitude of sins, but curiosity uncovers a lot more.

A New Missouri Version.

THE WEATHER.

For Eastern New York—Partly cloudy and cooler to-day; to-morrow fair, moderate west winds.

For New Jersey—Partly cloudy and cooler to-morrow; fair, moderate west winds. For Northern New England—Partly cloudy to-day; cooler in interior; to-morrow fair. For Southern New England—Cloudy to-day; cooler on the mainland; to-morrow fair. For Western New York—Fair to-day and to-morrow; rising temperature to-morrow.

MAY BOYCOTT SPANISH GOODS.

Argentine Communist Federation Makes Threat.